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New Web Site Offers Information on Formerly Used Defense Sites

(WASHINGTON, Oct. 1, 2003) - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is unveiling a new World Wide Web Site today that provides additional information on Formerly Used Defense Sites where the Corps is actively working or will take necessary cleanup actions.

The new site at <http://m1.crrel.usace.army.mil/fuds/> displays basic information, such as property name, location, past use by Department of Defense activities, a property description and an estimated cost for completing the work, on more than 1,500 Formerly Used Defense Sites properties. The site also provides information on whether a Restoration Advisory Board is active at the property and a Corps District office phone number where the public can obtain more information.

The Web Site information is based on data the Department of Defense compiles each year for its *Defense Environmental Restoration Program Annual Report to Congress*. As that information is shared with Congress each year, the Corps will update the Web Site. The Web Site does not include all the properties eligible for the program, only those where the Corps is actively working or where it is planning to take necessary cleanup actions.

"This is the culmination of a great deal of work to get this information out to the public in a readily accessible way, taking advantage of the technology available to us today," said Robert Lubbert, Chief, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Formerly Used Defense Sites Branch.

"It is important to us that the public knows and understands what we are doing at these properties, and can provide their thoughts on how best to clean up these properties," he said. "We have included a feedback loop on the Web Site so people can send us their questions and suggestions on how to make the site more useful to them."

The Formerly Used Defense Sites Program restores properties formerly owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense. The Defense Department is committed to protecting human health and the environment and improving public safety by cleaning up environmental contamination on properties formerly used for military purposes. The Department of the Army is the program's Executive Agent and the Corps is responsible for carrying out the program. The program's scope and magnitude are significant, with more than 9,300 properties having been identified for potential inclusion. A list of all the properties considered for the program can be found at <http://hq.environmental.usace.army.mil/programs/fuds/fudsinv/fudsinv.html>.

Additional information on the Formerly Used Defense Sites Program can be found at:
<http://hq.environmental.usace.army.mil/programs/fuds/fuds.html>.

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